

Page No.

Appl. No. 09/558,421

The plan was to make Taq DNA pol mutant so that it can utilize deoxy or dideoxynucleotides more effectively. This will be similar to T5 DNA pol mutation.

Comparison of the amino acid sequence of polymerases such as T5, Pol I, T7 and Taq showed some distinctive differences in and around dNTP binding sites. Note that T7 utilizes dNTPs/ddNTPs equally well.

The dNTPs binds adjacent to O-helix of Klenow fragment may be important. These following amino acids

POL I (Klenow frag)

O-helix

Arg 754

O-helix

Arg 755

Q-helix

Arg 841

POL I Phe 762

Taq

Arg 659

Arg 660

Arg 746

Phe

T7

Arg 606

~~Arg 606~~~~Arg 606~~~~Arg 606~~

T5

Arg

Ala

Arg

Phe

In J-helix

Pol I 677 = Gln (Q)

T5 = Gln (Q)

Taq 582 = Gln (Q)

~~T7 582 = Ala (A)~~

I-helix

Pol 628 = Leu (L)

T5 = Leu

Taq = Leu

~~T7 628 = Lys (K)~~

β-sheet 14

Pol 919 Gly (G)

Taq Gly (G)

~~T7 919 = Lys (K)~~

T5 Asp (D)

Q-helix in addition to Arg 841

Pol 854 Asp (D)

Taq Asp (D)

~~T7 854 = Leu (L)~~

T5 Asp (D)

To Page No.

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